GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:832
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000
DEFENCE CO-OPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established co- operation with South Africa in the field of Defence;

(b) if so, whether any accord has been signed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of accords with other countries signed by the Government in the field of defence during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. In September, 2000, an Agreement on Defence Cooperation between India and South Africa was signed on 27.9.2000 at Cape Town, South Africa. The Agreement envisages enhanced cooperation in the following areas:

(i) Defence Science and Technology through exchange of information, training, visits, exchange of personnel and joint projects.

(ii) Service-to-service interaction through training, visits and exchange of information and personnel.

(iii) Holding a regular dialogue on security and Defence issues.

(iv) Co-operation in co-development of conventional weapon systems, maritime cooperation including ship visits, hydrography, maritime safety, humanitarian assistance, search and rescue.

(v) Cooperation in the field of Defence industries.

(vi) Transfer of Technology, Technical assistance, training and co-production.

(d) The Government has entered into various Agreements, Protocols, Memoranda of Understanding etc. in thefield of Defence Cooperation with various friendly foreign countries. It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose the details thereof.